(iv) The Government of India is encouraging the farmers to follow a strategy of Integrated Pest Management. Under this strategy, the employment of other methods of control of pests and diseases such as use of resistant/tolerant varieties of crops, cultural and biological control methods and the need-based use of pesticides are encouraged; and

(v) The registration Committee prescribes safety precautions and use restrictions for different pesticides having regard to their use in different crops, nature of toxicity/ hazards and international data.

Use of banned pesticides

481. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several presticides banned in other countries are still in use in India, if so, the details of such pesticides together with the reasons therefor as appeared in the *Economic Times* of the 16th March, 1989;

(b) whether the recommendations of S.N. Banerjee Committee have been accepted but not implemented even after five years of the last report;

(c) whether Banerjee Committee has been wound up due to pressures from Pest Association of India and others; and

(d) whether Government are aware that unrestricted sale of Aluminium Phosphide and other similar substances have resulted in the large scale poisoning cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) There are some pesticides which are banned or restricted for use in other countries but are in use in India. However, out of the pesticides mentioned in the news item, namely DDT, Aldrin, chlordane, heptachlor, chlorbenzilate, DBCP, toxaphene, sodium cyanide, PCNB, captan, captafol, 2,4-D, aldicarb, carbaryl, dicofol, dimethoate, endosulfan, lindane, methyl parathion, nitrofen, paraquat, nicotine sulphate, PCP, phorate, PMA, tetradifon and zinc phosphide, three pesticides namely DBCP Toxaphene and Nitrofen are not in use in India.

The exact reasons are for the ban restriction vary from country to country. However, the major reasons are (i) Toxicity and health hazards; (ii) Availability of safer bio-degradable but costly pesticides; (iii) non-acceptability of certain pesticides due to climatic reasons peculiar to a particular country; (iv) local studies about residues in animals and environment; (v) development of insecticide resistance in insects; (vi) ecological considerations.

(b) The last report of the Banerjee Committee was received by the Government of India in December, 1988. Of the four reports of the Committee, 3 have been accepted by the Government of India.

(c) No, Sir. The term of the Banerjee Committee was extended twice and expired on 13-8-1988.

(d) The sale of Aluminium Phosphide has been restricted by the Registration Committee set up under the Insecticides Act, 1968. It can only be sold to:

(i) Government Department;
(ii) Government Undertakings; and
(iii) Organisations like Warehousing Corporations and Food Corporation of India.